THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SMT. SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Major steps taken by Government to reduce the incidence of poaching are as follows:—

(i) Hunting and trade in respect of endangered and rare species of wild animals is banned. Hunting of other species of wild animals is regulated under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) Assistance is provided to State Governments under a centrally sponsored scheme for development of infrastructure to apprehend poachers and illicit traders.

(iii) Scheme of cash rewards for providing information about poachers and illegal traders is being implemented.

(iv) Better coordination has been established at the State level between police and wildlife officials and at the Centre with officials of Customs Department and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence.

(v) International trade in respect of wild animals and products derived therefrom is strictly regulated with reference to provision given in Export Policy and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES).

Export of Iron Ore from Paradeep Port

2099. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of iron ore exported through Paradeep Port to different countries during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to increase the export of iron ore during the current financial year ;

(c) if so, the total tonnes of iron ore proposed to be exported through Paradeep Port to different countries in 1989-90 financial year; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) The total quantity of iron ore exported through Paradeep Port to different countries during the last three years, year-wise, was as under—

(Qty. in lakh WMT)

Year	Quantity
1986-87	20.80
1987-88	17.09
1988-89	16.39

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) MMTC the sole agency exporting iron ore through Paradeep Port, has so far concluded contracts for export of 19.75 lakh tonnes of iron ore through this Port during 1989-90 to Japan, Romania, GDR, China, DPRK and Middle East.

Tempering of Taxi and TSR Meters in Delhi

2100. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of large scale tampering of taxi and TSR-meters in Delhi, has come to Government's notice;

(b) if so, the number of such cases registered during each quarter of 1988 and 1989 so far; and

(c) what steps have been taken to effectively prevent such exploition of public by TSR and taxi drivers?